IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE NASHVILLE DIVISION

ALLIE FOSTER,)
Plaintiff,))
VS.) No. 3:11-CV-00367) JUDGE NIXON
WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP,) MAGISTRATE JUDGE GRIFFIN) JURY DEMAND
Defendant.)

DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Defendant Wal-Mart Stores East, LP, moves the Court for summary judgment as to all claims asserted against it pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 56.

This is a premises liability case.

Plaintiff brought this action to recover for injuries allegedly sustained on March 10, 2010, when she tripped and fell on a pallet at the end of an aisle at a Wal-Mart retail store located in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

GROUNDS

Wal-Mart is entitled to summary judgment because plaintiff cannot establish that (1) Wal-Mart had a duty to remove or warn of any danger posed by the pallet, or that (2) Wal-Mart caused plaintiff to fall.

Additionally, Wal-Mart is not liable to plaintiff because plaintiff's comparative fault caused the accident and bars plaintiff's claims.

There is no genuine dispute as to any material fact, and Wal-Mart is entitled to judgment as a matter of law.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

In support of this motion, Wal-Mart submits a memorandum of law, a statement of material facts, excerpts from plaintiff Allie Foster's deposition, pp. 18, 28-29, 32, 43-54, 59-67, and Exhibits 1-3 (Exhibit A) and the Affidavit of Tim Fox (Exhibit B)¹.

The following unpublished opinions are attached to the memorandum of law in support of this motion:

- (1) Norfleet v. Pulte Homes Tennessee Ltd. Partnership, 2011 WL 5446068 (Tenn. Ct. App. Nov. 9, 2011);
- (2) <u>Arrambide v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.</u>, 33 Fed. Appx. 199 (6th Cir. 2002).
- (3) Young v. First Bank of Tennessee, 2011 WL 332700 (Tenn. Ct. App. Jan. 28, 2011);
- (4) <u>Stewart v. Seton Corp.</u>, 2008 WL 426458 (Tenn. Ct. App. Feb. 12, 2008); and
- (5) <u>Herbison v. Hanson Chrysler Plymouth, Inc.</u>, 1998 WL 485668 (Tenn. Ct. App. Aug. 19, 1998).

¹ The video surveillance DVD attached to this affidavit will be filed manually with the Court. <u>See</u> Notice of Manual Filing filed contemporaneously with this motion.

s/Susan VanDyke

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the foregoing was served via the Electronic Filing System upon John D. Drake, attorney for plaintiff, 120 East Main Street, $3^{\rm rd}$ Floor, Bank of America, Murfreesboro, TN 37130, on this the 28th day of December, 2011.

s/Susan VanDyke

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